

Generalized forms of the Series of Bessel and Legendre.*

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§ 1.

The object of this paper is to investigate certain series and differential equations, generalizations of the series of Bessel and Legendre.

Throughout the paper

$$[n] \text{ denotes } \frac{p^n - 1}{p - 1}$$

reducing, when $p = 1$, to n .

The series discussed are the following:—

$$y_1 = A \left\{ x^{[n]} - \frac{[n][n-1]}{[2][2n-1]} p^2 x^{[n-2]} + \frac{[n][n-1][n-2][n-3]}{[2][4][2n-1][2n-3]} p^4 x^{[n-4]} - \dots \right\} \quad (1)$$

a generalized form of $P_n(x)$,

the relation between coefficients of x in successive terms being

$$A_{r+1} = -A_r p^{2r+1} \frac{[n-2r+1][n-2r+2]}{[2r][2n-2r+1]};$$

$$y_2 = A \left\{ x^{[n-1]} + \frac{[n+1][n+2]}{[2][2n+3]} p^2 x^{[n-3]} + \frac{[n+1][n+2][n+3][n+4]}{[2][4][2n+3][2n+5]} p^4 x^{[n-5]} + \dots \right\} \quad (2)$$

a generalized form of $Q_n(x)$,

the relation between successive coefficients being

$$A_{r+1} = A_r p^{2r} \frac{[n+2r-1][n+2r]}{[2r][2n+2r+1]};$$

* A short paper containing some of the results in this paper was read at the November meeting of the Society; the paper, in its present form, is dated January 1903.

$$y = A \left\{ x^{(n)} + \frac{x^{(n+2)}}{[2][2n+2]} + \frac{x^{(n+4)}}{[2][4][2n+2][2n+4]} + \dots \right\} \quad (3)$$

a generalized form of $J_n(x)$;

$$y = A \left\{ 1 + \frac{x^{(1)}}{[1][\alpha_1][\alpha_2][\alpha_3] \dots [\alpha_n]} + \frac{x^{(2)}}{[1][2][\alpha_1][\alpha_1+1] \dots [\alpha_n][\alpha_n+1]} + \dots \right\} \quad (4)$$

§ 2.

If $y = x^{(n)}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = [n]x^{(n)-1}$$

$$= [n]x^{(n-1)}.$$

Now differentiate, regarding x^p as the independent variable; denoting the result by $\frac{d^2y}{dx^{(2)}}$,

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^{(2)}} = \frac{d}{d(x^p)} \left\{ \frac{dy}{dx} \right\} = [n][n-1]x^{p-2(n-2)}.$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{d^3y}{dx^{(3)}} = \frac{d}{d(x^p)} \left\{ \frac{d^2y}{dx^{(2)}} \right\} = [n][n-1][n-2]x^{p-3(n-3)};$$

and generally

$$\frac{d^r y}{dx^{(r)}} = [n][n-1] \dots [n-r+1] x^{p-r(n-r)},$$

that is $x^{r-1} \frac{d^r y}{dx^{(r)}} = [n][n-1] \dots [n-r+1] x^{(n)}.$

§ 3.

Denote $C_0 y + C_1 x \frac{dy}{dx} + C_2 x^{(2)} \frac{d^2 y}{dx^{(2)}} + \dots + C_r x^{(r)} \frac{d^r y}{dx^{(r)}}$

by $\phi \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right].$

Then if $y = A_1 x^{(n_1)} + A_2 x^{(n_2)} + \dots + A_r x^{(n_r)} + \dots$
and $\phi[m]$ denote

$$C_0 + C_1[m] + C_2[m][m - 1] + \dots + C_s[m][m - 1] \dots [m - s + 1],$$

$$\phi \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right] = A_1 \phi[m_1] x^{m_1} + A_2 \phi[m_2] x^{m_2} + \dots + A_r \phi[m_r] x^{m_r} + \dots$$

Now choose m_1 , so as to make $\phi[m_1] = 0$.

Let a, b, c , etc., be roots of $\phi[m_1] = 0$.

Also choose

$$\begin{aligned} A_2 \phi[m_2] &= A_1, & m_2 &= m_1 + l, \\ A_3 \phi[m_3] &= A_2, & m_3 &= m_2 + l, \\ &\text{etc.} & &\text{etc} \end{aligned}$$

Then, giving m_1 the value a ,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right] &= A_1 x^{[a+l]} + A_2 x^{[a+2l]} + A_3 x^{[a+3l]} + \dots \\ &= A_1 \left\{ x^{[a+l]} + \frac{x^{[a+2l]}}{\phi[a+l]} + \frac{x^{[a+3l]}}{\phi[a+l]\phi[a+2l]} + \dots \right\} \\ &= A_1 x^{[l]} \left\{ x^{p[a]} + \frac{x^{p[a+l]}}{\phi[a+l]} + \frac{x^{p[a+2l]}}{\phi[a+l]\phi[a+2l]} + \dots \right\}; \end{aligned}$$

and $y = A \left\{ x^{[a]} + \frac{x^{[a+l]}}{\phi[a+l]} + \frac{x^{[a+2l]}}{\phi[a+l]\phi[a+2l]} + \dots \right\}.$

Denoting this series by $F(x)$, we have

$$\phi \left[x \frac{d.F(x)}{dx} \right] = x^{[l]} F(x^{p'}). \quad \dots \quad (A)$$

In the particular case when $p = 1$ this equation becomes

$$\phi \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right] = x^l y.$$

§ 4.

The series $y = 1 + \frac{x^{[1]}}{[1][a_1][a_2] \dots [a_n]} + \dots$

comes under the preceding form.

If we denote

$$\frac{(p^{a_1+m} - 1)(p^{a_2+m} - 1)(p^{a_3+m} - 1) \dots (p^{a_n+m} - 1)}{(p - 1)^n}$$

by $\Pi[a + m]$,

then

$\Pi[a+m] = A_0 + A_1[m] + A_2[m][m-1] + \dots + A_n[m][m-1] \dots [m-n+1]$,
 the coefficients A_0, A_1, A_2 , etc., being independent of m and given by

$$A_0 = \Pi[a]$$

$$A_1 = \Pi[a+1] - \Pi[a]$$

$$A_2 = \frac{\Pi[a+2] - \frac{p^2-1}{p-1}\Pi[a+1] - p\Pi[a]}{\frac{p^2-1}{p-1} \cdot \frac{p-1}{p-1}}$$

.....

$$A_r = \frac{\Pi[a+r]}{[r]!} - \frac{\Pi[a+r-1]}{[r-1]![1]!} + p \frac{\Pi[a+r-2]}{[r-2]![2]!} - \dots + (-1)^r p^{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot r-1} \frac{\Pi[a]}{[r]!},$$

in which $[r]!$ denotes $\frac{p^r - 1 \cdot p^{r-1} - 1 \cdot p^{r-2} - 1 \dots p^2 - 1 \cdot p - 1}{(p-1)^r}$.

We write

$$A_r = \sum_{s=0}^{s=r} (-1)^s p^{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot s-1} \frac{\Pi[a+r-s]}{[r-s]![s]!} \cdot *$$

Now take

$$\phi \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right] \equiv \sum_{r=0}^{r=n} A_r x^{[r+1]} \frac{d^{r+1}y}{dx^{[r+1]}}$$

$$A_r \text{ being } \sum_{s=0}^{s=r} (-1)^s p^{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot s-1} \frac{\Pi[a+r-s]}{[r-s]![s]!}$$

Then if we operate with $\phi \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right]$ on a series of the form

$$y = C_1 x^{[m_1]} + C_2 x^{[m_2]} + \dots$$

$\phi[m]$ will be $A_0[m] + A_1[m][m-1] + \dots$ to $n+1$ terms

$$\equiv [m] \left\{ A_0 + A_1[m-1] + \dots + A_n[m-1][m-2] \dots [m-n] \right\}$$

$$\equiv [m] \Pi[u+m-1].$$

$\phi[m_1]$ vanishes for the following values of m_1 :

- (0 ,
- 1 - a_1 ,
- 1 - a_2 ,
- ⋮
- 1 - a_n .

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By taking $m_1 = 0, l = 1$, we have

$$\sum_{r=0}^{r=n} A_r x^{(r+1)} \frac{d^{r+1}y}{dx^{(r+1)}} = Ax \left\{ 1 + \frac{x^{a_1[1]}}{[1][a_1][a_2] \dots [a_n]} + \dots \right\} \quad \text{(B)}$$

$$\text{and } y = A \left\{ 1 + \frac{x^{[1]}}{[1][a_1][a_2] \dots [a_n]} + \dots \right\},$$

and similar relations for the other values of m_1 , viz., for

$$1 - a_1, 1 - a_2, \text{ etc. :}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{r=0}^{r=n} A_r x^{(r+1)} \frac{d^{r+1}y}{dx^{(r+1)}} \\ &= Ax^{2-a_1} \left\{ 1 + \frac{x^{p^{2-a_1}[1]}}{[1] \cdot [2 - a_1][a_2 - a_1 + 1][a_3 - a_1 + 1] \dots [a_n - a_1 + 1]} \right. \\ & \quad + \frac{x^{p^{2-a_1}[2]}}{[1][2][2 - a_1][3 - a_1] \cdot [a_2 - a_1 + 1][a_2 - a_1 + 2] \dots [a_n - a_1 + 2]} \\ & \quad \left. + \dots \dots \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$y = Ax^{(1-a_1)} \left\{ 1 + \frac{x^{p^{1-a_1}[1]}}{[1][2 - a_1][a_2 - a_1 + 1] \dots [a_n - a_1 + 1]} + \dots \right\},$$

and $n - 1$ similar equations for the values $1 - a_2, 1 - a_3$, etc.

§ 5.

Two interesting special cases of the equation (B) are obtained by substituting

- (1) $a = a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4 = \dots = a_n$;
- (2) $a = a_1 = a_2 + 1 = a_3 + 2 = a_4 + 3 = \dots = a_n + n - 1$.

The series $F(x)$ is in case (1)

$$A \left\{ 1 + \frac{x^{[1]}}{[1][a]^n} + \frac{x^{[2]}}{[1][2][a]^n[a+1]^n} + \dots \right\} \quad \text{(1)}$$

and in case (2)

$$A \left\{ 1 + \frac{x^{[1]}}{[1][a]_n} + \frac{x^{[2]}}{[1][2][a]_n[a+1]_n} + \dots \right\}; \quad \text{(2)}$$

the differential equation being

$$\sum_{r=0}^{r=n} A_r x^{(r+1)} \frac{d^{r+1}y}{dx^{(r+1)}} = xF(x^p). \quad \text{(C)}$$

In case (1)
$$A_r \equiv \sum_{s=0}^{r-n} (-1)^s p^{s(r-s-1)} \frac{[a+r-s]^n}{[r-s]![s]!};$$

in case (2)
$$A_r \equiv \sum_{s=0}^{r-n} (-1)^s p^{s(r-s-1)} \frac{[a+r-s]^n}{[r-s]![s]!},$$

where $[a+r-s]_n \equiv [a+r-s][a+r-s-1][a+r-s-2] \dots$ to n factors.

In case (2) A_r simplifies, for the $r+1$ terms of the summation are

$$\equiv p^{r(a-n+r)} \frac{p^n - 1 \cdot p^{n-1} - 1 \dots p^{n-r+1} - 1}{p - 1 \cdot p^2 - 1 \dots p^r - 1} [a]_{n-r}.$$

The differential equation for series (2) may be written

$$\sum_{r=0}^{r-n} p^{r(a-n+r)} \frac{p^n - 1 \cdot p^{n-1} - 1 \dots p^{n-r+1} - 1}{p - 1 \cdot p^2 - 1 \dots p^r - 1} [a]_{n-r} x^{r+1} \frac{d^{r+1}y}{dx^{r+1}} = xF(x^p). \quad (D)$$

§ 6.

Consider the equation

$$px^{2n} \frac{d^2y}{dx^{2n}} + \{1 - [n] - [-n]\} x \frac{dy}{dx} + [n][-n]y = x^{2n}F(x^{2n}). \quad (E)$$

The form of the series $F(x)$ is to be determined.

Assuming

$$y = A_1 x^{[m_1]} + A_2 x^{[m_2]} + \dots$$

as a possible form of solution,

$$\phi[m] \equiv [n][-n] + \{1 - [n] - [-n]\}[m] + p[m][m - 1].$$

Now

$$p[m][m - 1] \equiv [m]\{[m] - 1\};$$

$$\therefore \phi[m] \equiv \{[m] - [n]\}\{[m] - [-n]\}.$$

The values of m_1 for which $\phi[m_1]$ vanishes are

$$m_1 = +n \text{ and } m_1 = -n.$$

Also

$$A_{r+1} \phi[m_{r+1}] = A_r, \text{ and } m_{r+1} = m_r + 2.$$

Therefore, for $m_1 = +n$,

$$A_{r+1} \{[m_{r+1}] - [n]\} \{[m_{r+1}] - [-n]\} = A_r,$$

that is

$$A_{r+1} \{[n + 2r] - [n]\} \{[n + 2r] - [-n]\} = A_r;$$

$$\therefore A_{r+1} = \frac{A_r}{[2r][2n + 2r]},$$

and $y = F(x) = A \left\{ x^{[n]} + \frac{x^{[n+2]}}{[2][2n+2]} + \frac{x^{[n+4]}}{[2][4][2n+2][2n+4]} + \dots \right\}$
 $= J_{[n]}(x).$

We may write the differential equation

$$px^{[2]} \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}} + \left\{ 1 - [n] - [-n] \right\} x \frac{dy}{dx} + [n][-n] y = x^{[n]} J_{[n]}(x^{p^2}), \quad (F)$$

which reduces to Bessel's Equation when $p = 1.$

§ 7.

Consider the expression

$$C_0y + C_1x \frac{dy}{dx} + C_2x^{[2]} \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}} - \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}}, \quad (1)$$

denoted by $\phi \left[x \frac{dy}{dx} \right] - \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}}.$

Then if $y = A_1x^{[m_1]} + A_2x^{[m_2]} + \dots + A_r x^{[m_r]} + \dots,$

performing the operations indicated by (1) we have the expression

$$\begin{aligned} & A_1\phi[m_1]x^{[m_1]} - A_1x^{p^2[m_1-2]}[m_1][m_1-1] \\ & + A_2\phi[m_2]x^{[m_2]} - A_2x^{p^2[m_2-2]}[m_2][m_2-1] \\ & + A_3\phi[m_3]x^{[m_3]} - A_3x^{p^2[m_3-2]}[m_3][m_3-1] \\ & + \dots \qquad \qquad \qquad - \dots \end{aligned}$$

Choose $m_2 = m_1 - 2,$
 $m_3 = m_2 - 2,$
 etc.,

and $A_{r+1}\phi[m_{r+1}] = A_r[m_r][m_r - 1].$

Write $C_0 = [n][-n - 1],$
 $C_1 = 1 - [n] - [-n - 1],$
 $C_2 = p.$

Then $\phi[m_1] \equiv [n][-n - 1] + \{ 1 - [n] - [-n - 1] \} [m_1] + p[m_1][m_1 - 1]$
 $\equiv \{ [m_1] - [n] \} \{ [m_1] - [-n - 1] \}.$

The values of m_1 which make $\phi[m_1]$ vanish are

$$m_1 = n \text{ and } m_1 = -n - 1.$$

Giving m_1 the value n , we have

$$m_{r+1} = n - 2r,$$

and the relation between successive coefficients in the series y is

$$A_{r+1} \{ [n - 2r] - [n] \} \{ [n - 2r] - [-n - 1] \} = [n - 2r + 2][n - 2r + 1] A_r,$$

which reduces to

$$A_{r+1} = -p^{2r+1} \frac{[n - 2r + 2][n - 2r + 1]}{[2r][2n - 2r + 1]} A_r;$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore y &= A \left\{ x^{[n]} - \frac{[n][n-1]}{[2][2n-1]} p^2 x^{[n-2]} + \frac{[n][n-1][n-2][n-3]}{[2][4][2n-1][2n-3]} p^4 x^{[n-4]} - \dots \right\} \\ &= P_{[n]}(x) \end{aligned}$$

which is a solution of

$$px^{[n]} \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}} - \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}} + \{ 1 - [n] - [-n - 1] \} x \frac{dy}{dx} + [n][-n - 1] y = P'_{[n-2]}(x) - P'_{[n-2]}(x^{p^2}), \quad (G)$$

$P'_{[n-2]}(x)$ denoting

$$A[n][n-1] \left\{ x^{[n-2]} - p^2 \frac{[n-2][n-3]}{[2][2n-1]} x^{[n-4]} + \dots \right\}.$$

Similarly, giving m , the value $-n - 1$, we obtain a series in which the relation between successive coefficients is given by

$$A_{r+1} \{ [-n - 1 - 2r] - [n] \} \{ [-n - 1 - 2r] - [-n - 1] \} = [-n - 1 - 2r + 2][-n - 1 - 2r + 1] A_r;$$

from which $A_{r+1} = \frac{A_r \cdot [n + 2r][n + 2r - 1]}{[2r][2n + 2r + 1]} p^2;$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore y &= A \left\{ x^{[-n-1]} + \frac{[n+1][n+2]}{[2][2n+3]} p^2 x^{[-n-3]} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{[n+1][n+2][n+3][n+4]}{[2][4][2n+3][2n+5]} p^4 x^{[-n-5]} + \dots \right\} \\ &= Q_{[n]}(x). \end{aligned}$$

The equation is

$$px^{[n]} \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}} - \frac{d^2y}{dx^{[2]}} + \{ 1 - [-n - 1] - [n] \} x \frac{dy}{dx} + [n][-n - 1] y = Q'_{[n+3]}(x) - Q'_{[n+3]}(x^{p^2}), \quad (H)$$

$Q'_{[n+3]}(x)$ denoting

$$A[n+1][n+2] \left\{ x^{[-n-3]} + \frac{[n+3][n+4]}{[2][2n+3]} p^2 x^{[-n-5]} + \dots \right\}.$$

The equations (G) and (H) reduce to Legendre's Equation when $p = 1$.